of this Act shall be held invalid for any reason, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect, and such invalid portion shall be considered severed and deleted from this Act.

SECTION [[14]] 15. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect [[July]] June 1, 1974.

Approved April 30, 1974.

CHAPTER 287

(Senate Bill 870)

AN ACT concerning

Environmental Noise - Act of 1974

FOR the purpose of establishing environmental noise control as a separate function from air pollution control; strengthening and clarifying the powers and responsibilities of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for establishing environmental noise standards, developing a plan for the achievement of such standards, coordinating the activities of State agencies in this field, requiring that maximum sound level limits and other requirements for the control of noise emanating from the operation of pleasure craft and motor vehicles and from activities on private real property, and in State forests and parks be established and enforced, requiring the resolution of existing noise problems and the prevention of new noise problems in areas near airports through the adoption of noise abatement plans and the establishment and enforcement of noise zone regulations, requiring State agencies to further the policy of the State for the control of noise pollution, making style changes, correcting errors therein, and generally relating to control of environmental noise from transportation and other sources.

BY repealing and re-enacting, with amendments,

Article 43 — Health Section 690, 691, 692, 693(a), 693(b), 697, and 699 Annotated Code of Maryland (1971 Replacement Volume and 1973 Supplement)